



United States Department
of Agriculture

National Agricultural
Statistics Service

Pennsylvania Agricultural
Statistics Service
2301 North Cameron Street
Harrisburg, PA 17110-9405
(717) 787 3904
FAX (717) 782 4011

Pennsylvania Press Release

PRESS RELEASE

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PENNSYLVANIA EGG PRODUCTION DOWN 4 PERCENT IN JANUARY

HARRISBURG --- Egg production in **Pennsylvania** during January 2000 totaled 509 million eggs, down 4 percent from January 1999, according to the Pennsylvania Agricultural Statistics Service (PASS). The total number of layers on hand averaged 22.7 million during January, up less than 1 percent from one year earlier. Production per 100 layers was 2238 eggs during the month, compared with 2335 eggs in January 1999.

Egg-type chicks hatched during January 2000 totaled 4.94 million, 1 percent less than the 5.00 million hatched the previous January. Broiler-type chicks hatched totaled 13.3 million during January 2000, up 1 percent from the previous year.

United States' egg production totaled 7.15 billion during January 2000, up 2 percent from the 6.98 billion produced a year ago. The total number of layers during January averaged 329 million, up 2 percent from January 1999. Egg production per 100 layers was 2176 eggs, up 1 percent from January 1999.

Egg-type chicks hatched in the United States during January totaled 34.1 million, down 4 percent from January 1999. Broiler-type hatch totaled 749 million, 2 percent more than the previous January.